

Remarks

In the Office action dated November 17, 2006, a Restriction Requirement was placed on the application, requiring election of one of the following species for prosecution under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

Species I: Figure 14 (state of a catalyst)

Species II: Figure 15 (state of the engine and of a valve)

Species III: Figure 17 (desired engine torque)

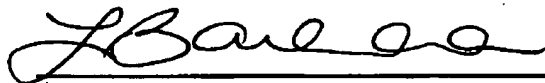
Applicant hereby elects Species II without traverse, and has accordingly amended the claims to conform to the election.

Based on the foregoing comments, the above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account No. 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1505.

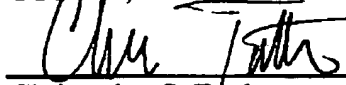
CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile at (571) 273-8300 on December 18, 2006.



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Respectfully submitted,
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